



What's News – July 2021

L'Arche Hobart Beni-Abbes Community

Dear friends,

We have passed the winter solstice which is of course the shortest day of the year. Nevertheless the cooler temperatures and short days haven't dampened our enthusiasm to celebrate and gather as a community.

In early July we celebrated Fr Terry

Yard's 55 years as a priest in a gathering at 40 Pirie St. This occasion was a wonderful celebration of Fr Terry and all he has lived both as a priest and as a cornerstone of the L'Arche Hobart community. We give thanks for his gifts and for his faithfulness to the mission and identity of L'Arche. Father Terry, you are a true Universal Brother to all.

To all our community members and assistants, we thank you for your ongoing faithfulness and commitment to the mission.

All the best as we journey towards Spring.

Stewart Betty
Acting Community Leader

Events!

Wednesday 21 July – **Café L'Arche**, 7 to 8.30 pm, St Therese's Hall, Hopkins St, Moonah

Tuesday 3 August – **Solidarity** – 6 to 8 pm, 40 Pirie St, New Town

Wednesday 18 August – **Coffee night** 7 to 8.30 pm, 40 Pirie St

All welcome



Garry was pleased to get his second Covid shot, not just for his own protection but as he said "I like to do my bit for the community". You're setting a good example for all of us, Garry.

A bit of cold weather doesn't deter the intrepid Louise from going for walks. And in Hobart we're spoilt for beautiful locations for walking.



L'Arche Identity

We are people with and without intellectual disabilities, sharing life in Communities belonging to an International Federation.

Mutual relationships and trust in God are at the heart of our journey together.

We celebrate the unique value of every person and recognise our need of one another.

Mission

To make known the gifts of people with intellectual disabilities revealed through mutually transforming relationships.

To foster an environment in Community that responds to the changing needs of our members, whilst being faithful to the core values of our founding story.

To engage in our diverse cultures, working together toward a more human society.

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L'Arche Hobart (Beni-Abbes)

Mission Statement
(in conjunction with the International Identity and Mission Statement)

At Beni-Abbes we are people with and without disability who create homes and community.

We share our lives in real friendships, as we cook, share meals, pray together, talk, listen, help each other, through the good and the hard times in the spirit of love, as a sign of hope to others.

God is revealed to us when we celebrate and gather to pray and through relationships that are built on faithful, open and welcoming hearts.

Dear L'Arche friends,

This is something of a catchup edition due to some of last month's news being "parked" while the 35th anniversary claimed the spotlight.

Anyway, if you've never been to Solidarity, or haven't been for a while, please give some thought to coming along. The nights are cold but you'll enjoy a hearty meal, good company and ... well, that's a bit different each month but it's always fun.

The last three have been especially interesting and enjoyable.

In May, Ash Kaur and her husband and their daughters introduced us to their Hindu faith.

Their presentation was fascinating and they answered lots of questions for us. There's such a lot that we don't know about one another. Thank you so much for opening up Hinduism for us.

In June, we held our gathering at the chapel in the Saints Louis and Zelig Centre at Moonah (the building where we have our offices).

Father Krish and Deacon Michael told us about the history of St Therese's Parish. They are celebrating their 90th birthday this year and had some interesting stories to tell.

And in July, we celebrated the 55th anniversary of Fr Terry Yard's ordination

– see next page.

Solidarity is held on the first Tuesday of the month and we'd love to see you there.

Stay warm!

Claire Manthorpe

Editor

A message from L'Arche Australia:

Thanks to everyone who voted for L'Arche Australia at **My Giving Circle**. We received a \$2000 grant among the June 2021 winners. Your weekly vote helps us achieve our goals of providing opportunities for inclusion and welcome for people with a lived experience of intellectual disability.

To add a vote, go to mygivingcircle.org or go to the **L'Arche Australia Facebook** page to find the direct link. Thank you! It doesn't cost anything although there is an option to make a donation if you wish.

Prayer Points



This month we especially pray for:

- * the L'Arche Sydney community as they cope with the stress of the Covid lockdown
- * the Coleman family, as they mourn the loss of Jenny's father, Chester
- * L'Arche Canberra, mourning the loss of their long-time and much loved member, Liz Archer
- * all members of our community: core members, assistants, staff, board members, community council, volunteers, families and friends
- * the Brisbane community as it seeks a new leader
- * the L'Arche Haiti community as it lives in turbulent times
- * leaders and boards of L'Arche world-wide as they lead in difficult times

Invitation to Australia-wide Weekly Prayer

Join the L'Arche Australia Community by Zoom for a half hour time of prayer and reflection on the Gospel of the day, finishing with the prayer below.

This link will be active every Thursday evening at 7.30 pm AEST. Add to your calendar and join our weekly prayer!! Suitable for households and individuals.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82643471339?pwd=QVNQb2tzSUh5SHFZRWZhTWpKenI1QQT09#success>

Meeting ID: 826 4347 1339

Passcode: 542630

L'Arche International Jubilee Prayer 1964-2014

*Loving God,
You called us into being and gave us our mission.
Thank you for the gift of one another.
Thank you for our journey together in L'Arche from the beginning till now.
Help us continue to grow in our response to you,
listening to your voice within us,
seeing you around us,
delighting in our gifts,
forgiving one another for our failings,
trusting in you,
and welcoming tomorrow
in Faith, Hope and Love.*

Congratulations Fr Terry!

Fr Terry Yard recently celebrated the 55th anniversary of his ordination and we honoured him at our July Solidarity night. His old friend Emeritus Archbishop Adrian Doyle was able to attend our gathering. We were delighted to welcome him as he has always been a friend to our community. As a young priest, he was at Terry's ordination and was able to tell us some stories about their early days, going back to their days as schoolboys at St Virgil's College.



It's not just a pile of plates and cutlery – it's a symbol of the hospitality that is an essential part of L'Arche.

Above: John, Stewart and Garry welcoming everyone.

'Twas a very cold night and we all enjoyed a magnificent roast dinner. Thank you cooks! (You know who you are.) After dinner Fr Terry told us some of his life stories (did you know he's walked the Overland Track four times?) and answered lots of questions. We then "passed the candle" and took the opportunity to wish him well and thank him for the gift that he is to our community. Finally, Garry lead us in an energetic rendition of Waltzing Matilda.



National Listening and Speaking Group

In the week leading up to our 35th anniversary celebration, L'Arche Hobart was honoured to host a meeting of the National Listening and Speaking Group, some of whom were able to stay to take part in our celebration. Here is their report.



News from the L'Arche Australia National Listening and Speaking group.

We were delighted to be able to finally meet each other in person after having met via Zoom for the last year. It was also wonderful to be able to travel to Hobart and be offered such wonderful hospitality from our friends from L'Arche Beni-Abbes. Thanks for having us.

Our theme for this meeting was "Moving Forward".



We welcomed Garry Freeman, our newest representative from Beni-Abbes. (Each community has two reps, although the Brisbane people were unable to attend this gathering. Rosey Dean is our other representative.) It is so good that Garry has agreed to take up this important role. We also valued his contributions as a musician throughout the week.

After representatives presented news from their communities, we got on with some of our other work. There was follow up from our feedback to the government on the Values and Attitudes Paper, and update on the L'Arche

Australia Mandate process and then our response to the next stage of the International Charter Process.

Representatives reviewed their beads and chose the three beads that they agreed showed the most important ideas that they wanted to be included in the Charter.

There was news about the Companions Retreat, some work on L'Arche traditions and then two sessions called Justice for All. We had some honest, and at times difficult, conversations about the good and hard things about living with the experience of an intellectual disability in Australia. People shared their personal experiences and some experiences of other members of their community in a sensitive and private way. We talked about how we could influence change in Australia and make sure that people with a disability have the respect that they deserve as Australians.

We were very lucky to be able to host a screening of Michael McDonald's new film "6000 Waiting". It is a very powerful and moving film. We also met with Michael and Nick and Naomi, two people who feature in the film, for a Q & A session via Zoom after we'd watched the film. They told us why the film was made and how making it has made a difference to them. It was so good to listen to their stories. Nick is a man in his 40's who has lived in a nursing home for the last three years because he cannot get the funding and support he needs to live in his own home. He and

others are fighting for this unfair system to be changed.

The last part of our meeting included making short films called "I Am". This helps us all to practise our public speaking skills and get used to talking to the camera. We are getting really good at this.

Finally, David Treanor came to speak with us and catch us up with news from L'Arche Australia and the Federation and lastly, we prepared our report for the L'Arche Australia Board. We do manage to pack a lot into just a few days whenever we meet.

We also had a great shared meal at 40 which turned into a fun music session. We also enjoyed a meal out together at the Maypole Hotel and in free time some people got to see some of the sights of Hobart. A busy, informative and fun few days.

Cindy Treanor
on behalf of the representatives from the NLSG



We don't have any photos of the working sessions, but here are some shots from the potluck dinner hosted by Beni-Abbes.



People of L'Arche Hobart - Lesley Lewis

How long have you been with L'Arche?

I became part of the Community on 1st September 1993 so that's 28 years.

That was the same day as our son, Chris, moved in at Number 21 with Sean McKeown, Ann Huxley and Felicity Rose.

What is your role?

While I have enjoyed being in many roles since that time, including prayer partner, board member, board chairperson, accompanier, delegate, I am gaining much from my current role as community council member.

I have learned the importance of actually having a relationship over time with people in the houses in order to consider and make good decisions.

What do you love/enjoy about L'Arche?

I can say I truly enjoy everything about community especially sharing a meal in one of the houses, solidarity night, barbecues, opportunities for reflection on how our community is travelling, but especially the opportunities to just have a cuppa with another member where we can just 'hang out'.

How do you relax in your spare time?

For relaxation I enjoy being in my little garden, sitting or working in it, reading, having a cuppa with friends. Of course

anything which involves catching up with my grandchildren and other family members is always a treat.

What is something we don't know about you, but will after reading this!

I think I'm an open book but you may be surprised to know that, in my working life, I had eight jobs none of which I applied for. Just word of mouth, as they say!

Times are different now eh?

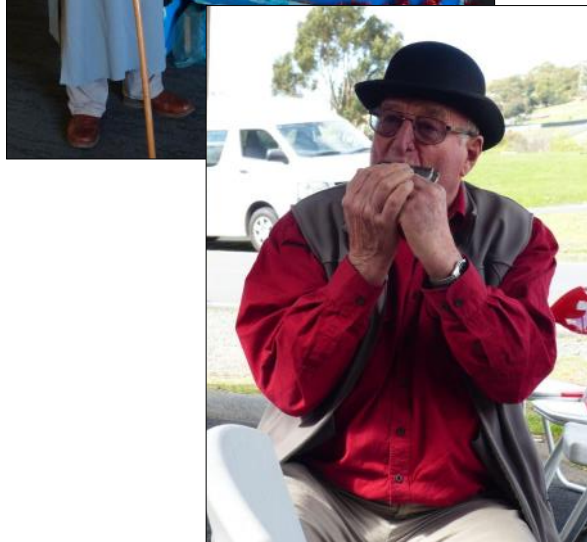


Chris and Lesley with their good friend Maria Flynn.

Happy birthday, Adrian Dean!



When Rosemary Dean made Beni-Abbes her home 27 years ago, her wonderful parents, Adrian and Peggy, also "stepped into the ark". Sadly, Peggy passed away two and a half years ago, but we still have Adrian in our midst. Adrian makes amazing kites and is always ready to join in activities, have some fun and create laughter. In a couple of weeks time, he celebrates his 90th birthday. We all wish him many more years of health and happiness and thank him for all he has been and continues to be for our community.



Making music...



Leanne and Terry enjoyed strumming out some music at Café L'Arche with Dave Clarke. Louise and Rosey provided percussion, Louise on a shaker and Rosey on a cajon (I had to google that), alas not pictured. And Claire Lawler was in town so we had a fine singalong with a fabulous range of requests, ending with a couple of Christmas carols. And why not?



Below: Coffee Night saw John and Garry on guitar, Rosey on percussion and Scott on mandolin. We are truly blessed to have so many people who are not only talented but generous with their time. Thank you!





Hannah had a very happy birthday. She enjoyed a family celebration with her Mum and Dad and other family members then in the evening some of her friends gathered at her house for "cake and candle".

Happy birthday Hannah!
You bring a lot of joy to our community.



And a focus on the birthday girl on the next page...





Left: Angie and Hannah heading off to church in their Sunday best.



Right: Hannah walking on her treadmill.

Right: Epi, Garry and Hannah taking a winter walk at Benjafield Park.



Left: Hannah at the library.



Right: Hannah and Claire M at Coffee Night.

Eileen Glass - The Gift of L'Arche Hobart

While she was in Hobart for our 35th anniversary celebration, Eileen kindly gave a public talk on the gift of L'Arche Hobart to the wider L'Arche family. Here is a summary of her key points.

What the foundation of L'Arche Hobart, Beni-Abbes brought to the development of L'Arche in Australia

L'Arche in Australia grew rapidly in the early years. L'Arche Canberra began 1978. Emmaus Cottage at Milton NSW, at the end of 1981, and L'Arche Sydney in 1983. So the foundation in Hobart in 1986 was the fourth in eight years.

Until 1986, the communities were no more than three hours apart by car so it was relatively easy to exchange visits, to send assistants from one community to another for support and experience, Board members could get to know one another. It was relatively easy to plan formation sessions, retreats and regional gatherings.

L'Arche Hobart opened the horizons of L'Arche Australia

Australia was the only country in L'Arche in the southern hemisphere, our communities were small, and modestly resourced, so we had to be creative and intentional in supporting one another and growing our links with the International Federation.

That learning stood us in good stead when L'Arche Brisbane was established ten years later, followed by the foundations in Melbourne and Perth.

The evolution of the governance structures of L'Arche Australia

The first three communities were established under the incorporation of L'Arche Australia, with the local committee in each place as a sub-committee of the national board.

By 1986, L'Arche Beni-Abbes was operating under its own incorporation and joined the Board of L'Arche Australia as a corporate member. L'Arche Australia had to be open to finding the governance structures which best fit a community in the developmental stages.

In 1982, the Region of Australia became part of L'Arche International, and of seven national leaders since, three have come from L'Arche Hobart.

Lilian Sutton, John Coleman and David Treanor have each contributed significantly to the development of L'Arche in Australia. Each one has been appreciated for their contribution to the International Federation.

L'Arche Hobart/Beni-Abbes has experienced seasons of flourishing and seasons of struggle and diminishment over the past 35 years. During those years:

The community has been a powerful witness to the transforming power of faithful friendships lived in a spirit of mutuality, forgiveness, love and joy.

The world of people with an Intellectual disability has changed, so their needs have changed.

The wider community of Hobart has changed and L'Arche Beni-Abbes has become part of the story of Hobart.



The task facing the community today is to listen attentively to the call that is unfolding in this particular season of their life.

Who will lead the community into the new vision for the future?

A leader formed in L'Arche, with an ability to lead people in living the mission, a courageous person who is committed over time and able to work in partnership with the Board. The Board must be clear its responsibility is to exercise governance at the service of the mission.

The founding of L'Arche Hobart was the work of years and it yielded rich fruit. The renewal of L'Arche Hobart will take time, and like all work done in faith it will yield rich fruit.

Eileen Glass

Some random pics...



At the end of the bowling season, Garry won six (or seven?) awards, including most improved player for 20/21. Congratulations!



David Clarke's parents came down from "up north" for our 35th and the whole Clarke family accompanied Garry to church.



Garry met Archbishop Porteous one Sunday.



July 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4	5	6 Solidarity, 6 to 8 pm, 40 Pirie St *	7	8	9 Sarah Coleman's birthday	10
11	12	13	14	15	16 Arbie Jaurigue's birthday	17
18	19	20	21 Café L'Arche, 7 to 8.30 pm, St Therese's Hall	22	23 Adrian Dean's birthday	24
25	26	27	28	29 Board meeting 5.30 pm	30 Deadline for August <i>What's News</i>	31

Events that look like this are open to all to attend. Bring your friends! The more the merrier!

* Solidarity this month will be a special time of celebration of Fr Terry's 55th anniversary of ordination.

If you want any information, please contact us ...



by phone 6228 3920



or email hobart.office@larche.org.au



or Facebook Message – our Facebook page is **L'Arche Hobart - Beni-Abbes**

For information, stories and films about L'Arche Australia and L'Arche International, visit:

www.larche.org.au/

www.larche.org/en/welcome

Feedback to L'Arche Hobart: We welcome feedback from you, including complaints and compliments. If you would like to offer us feedback, you can phone us on 6228 3920, email: hobart.leader@larche.org.au, or post to: PO Box 132 Moonah 7009. We can support you in this if you need any assistance.



August 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Katrina Wickham's birthday	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10 Solidarity 6-8 pm, 40 Pirie St	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18 Coffee Night, 7 to 8.30 pm, 40 Pirie St	19 Murray Coombe's birthday	20	21
22	23	24 Scott Tringrove's birthday	25	26 Board meeting 5 pm office	27 Deadline for July <i>What's News</i>	28
29	30	31				



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**HAPPY
ANNIVERSARY!**

Rennie Jaurigue – 12 years – 1999

Carol Stokes – 11 years – 2010